

## Tamworth

### Economic Development Committee

Minutes from the March 4, 2010 meeting

**The meeting was called to order at 8 PM.**

**Present at the meeting:** Committee members present: Pat Farley, Sheldon Perry, Chris Franchi, Willie Farnum. Those absent: Michelle Cleveland, Marletta Meduskuie. Alternates present: Karen McNiff. From the public present: Dennis Quinn.

#### **Committee Reports**

With Dennis Quinn present, there was an extended discussion about broadband coverage in Tamworth. This discussion included the following topics:

- The special 3-year T1 line rate offered by Fair Point Communication: \$207/month. There was no particular advantage determined for our wireless network development at this time.
- There was some discussion about AT&T's application for a variance to Tamworth's cell tower ordinance and other discussions about antennas, as it pertains to our proposed Tamwireless network. There was a general agreement that our wireless system complies with this ordinance.
- There was a brief discussion about various hill top access points, as potentially being donated by some Tamworth landowners.
- A discussion ensued about offering the Tamwireless network on a "pay per use" basis. Typically not offered by other networks due to the increased administrative labor, our system may be small enough to make this possible. It would likely appeal to seasonal residents and to those residents who would carefully monitor their use as to keep down costs.

There was a discussion about our broadband survey as presented in the current Civic News, on-line via the Tamworth Exchange and on our new website [www.tamwireless.net](http://www.tamwireless.net). There have been 42 responses to date, of which 35 are interested in the Tamworth wireless network.

Pat Farley offered a handout regarding the ultra high-speed broadband network, as proposed by Google, for our information.

#### **New Business**

Dennis will work further to develop a business plan and is scheduled to make a presentation to the Tamworth Foundation in the near future.

Willie made a motion that the EDC write a letter to the Tamworth Foundation in support of funding a feasibility study as it relates to the development of the Tamwireless network. The motion was seconded and was passed unanimously by the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM. The next meeting will be on April 1<sup>st</sup>.